

THE HERALD'S PAGE FOR EVERY WOMAN

EDITED BY
JULIA CHANDLER MANZ

NATURE SCHOOL FOR YOUNG CHILDREN

Affords the Highest Form of Development.

By ELLA WHEELER WILCOX.
(CONTINUED FROM YESTERDAY.)
In the village of Fairhope, Ala., across the bay from Mobile, is a little school that is often called a reform school—not to reform the children, but to reform the methods of teaching.
There is a kindergarten for children under seven years of age doing the usual kindergarten work, but no dictation, no close work, nor "finished" work for exhibition is permitted.
Children from seven to thirteen years of age constitute the life class, where they simply live as happy and wholesome a life as possible.
In the first division of the life class the children under ten use no books, except as they themselves desire to learn to read. Instead of the formal work of reading and writing and number, the children have music—that is, singing pretty songs, adapted to their year, for the pleasure of singing, not to be able to read music or write music. They often act out or dramatize some song or poem. Many poems are committed by the children, not as a task, but by hearing the teacher recite the same poem a number of times. They have exercises in fundamental conceptions of number daily.

Children Taught Through Tales.
Story-telling occupies an important place on the programme, in which the children become acquainted with all the best fairy tales, legends, folklores, and myths and great stories of history in the most natural, delightful way without danger of impairing the eyesight by bending over a book.

Spoken language is cultivated in the story hour. German is also taught by the conversational method. One of the most delightful items of the daily programme is the walk.

No definite order is followed, and the direction of the walk is determined by the interest of the day.
Sometimes a neighboring pond is visited to watch the development of the tadpoles into frogs. Sometimes the woods are scoured to discover the elusive piffl of the pines. The identification of trees in winter occupies many walks. In the spring the appearance daily of some new blossom occupies the interest for many days.

Then there is the building of the birds' nests to watch, and all of the interesting bird life to observe.
An out-door gymnasium affords ample opportunity for acquiring many bodily accomplishments.

One period daily is given to hand-work, and one also to the development of conceptions of color, form, &c. Paper, clay, cardboard, construction, scissors, and paste, clay, water colors, and pencils are used.

Taught Plant Life.

Experience in growing plants is given every child. Plots of ground are laid out in which every child may plant what he chooses and cultivate it in his own way, with the assistance of the teacher and the presence and activity of his fellows to stimulate his perseverance. A well-equipped manual training department affords employment for both boys and girls as soon as they are old enough to use the tools.

The older division of the life class—from ten to thirteen years of age—continue the activities and experiences of the younger group, but they come gradually to books.

This school began with eight pupils. It now has 12.
Such nature schools should be established all over the land, and no little child under ten should ever be sent into a school where the use of books is imperative. Any child who studies nature under wise teachers until ten and begins then to learn his letters will stand as high as others of his age when he reaches the high school period. And his health and powers of concentration will exceed the average. Experiment and see.



MASTER JAMES BENNETT, MASTER DONALD B. EDMONSTON.
Age three years. Age eight months.

FIRST FOUR ENTRIES IN BABY CONTEST YESTERDAY WERE HANDSOME TOTS

By JULIA CHANDLER MANZ.

The first comers to the show of lovely babies are charming little tots, each with his or her own particular charm that pleads through grave or laughing eyes, as the case may be, for instant recognition.

The Borden Baby Contest opened its doors yesterday to the little children of Washington and its vicinity, letting them into a big field of happiness in which there are growing 20 prize flowers, all to be picked by the little tots before a month has closed.

The very first one of them all came to me early yesterday morning without an introduction. There was not a line upon the back of the photograph to indicate from whence the dear baby in his dainty long dress came; from his serious, frank eyes I could gather nothing, and so I cannot tell you who the little chap on the extreme right of the baby group is until his mother gives me the information required with each entry in the Borden Baby Contest.

Master Donald Bruce Edmonston, age eight months, son of Mr. E. Kemp Edmonston and Mrs. Marie Jeanette Edmonston, who lives in the Birmingham apartment, came next into the contest with his half smile of expectancy, and his chubby, dimpled hands that suggest instantly the holding of more hearts than his mother's or father's.

The third entry gave neither name nor address, a serious omission, for the

little picture told tales of either parentage or home as he looks out upon the world of babies on my desk with dark and steadfast eyes.

Rules Should Be Read.

Every mother should read most carefully the conditions of the Borden Contest, which appear daily in the columns of The Washington Herald, and should comply with them, for how am I to know your little boy or girl from hundreds of others, mother dear, if you fail to tell me?

And if I don't know, how am I to tell the judges, pray?
The fourth baby, whose little coat and cap of white fur suggest to us the coming of the cold winds of winter, bore his name dimly in pencil on his pasteboard back, which I made out to be Master James Bennett, age three years. There was a still dimmer address, which was quite unintelligible, so that I can tell you no more of this fourth little boy who has come to join the wonderful month of babies.

It would seem from the first entries that this contest is going to be a regular war affair, but I assure you that such is not the case, for, following the little men whose winsome pictures I am giving you to-day, came many tiny maidens, with winsome smiles and laughing eyes, to beguile the hearts of the men who shall look upon their beauty when the contest closes.

What a wonderful party of children

are those whose pictures visited my desk yesterday!

And a still bigger party assembled in the Bazaar studio to take advantage of The Herald's offer to have a suitable picture made free for the contest. They scrambled through the photographer's rooms from early morning until the light grew dim, looking askance at each other, as much as to say: "Well, what on earth are you doing here?"

One small boy, hardly three years old, stared so hard at a tiny little miss that she burst into uncontrollable sobs, and it was a solid hour before she could be consoled in the matter of his baby rudeness sufficiently to get a photograph that did not show a quivering mouth and big blue eyes that wept streams of briny tears.

Tried to Console Her.

"Never mind, darling, he is not as pretty as you are," whispered the small maid's mother consolingly into her ear.

The little lad's stare held no resentment, but rather something of his wonder that there could be so many babies in all the world as were seen yesterday in the picture man's place of business. Certain it is, that the month ahead of us will be no ordinary row of infantile beauty, if I may judge the pictures to come by those already he piled high upon my desk.

All of which goes to prove my repeated assertion that nowhere else in the world are there so many splendid looking babies as in Washington and its vicinity.

TO-MORROW'S MENU; HOW TO PREPARE IT

BREAKFAST

Cantaloupes.
Liver and bacon.
Rice muffins.
Coffee.

LUNCHEON

Chili verde.
Cheese sandwiches.
Sliced oranges.
Almond cakes.

DINNER

Cream of beet soup.
Rice and oyster loaf.
Stuffed baked potatoes.
Creamed carrots.
Lettuce salad.
Hot crackers.
Children's delight.

Chili verde—Cut fine six large peppers, fry in butter until tender. Just before taking up add six well-beaten eggs. Stir all together, add salt. If wanted hot, leave in a few pepper seeds, but cut out the greater part of the seeds, or it will be a little too hot for most people.

Rice and oyster loaf—Line a casserole with boiled rice, seasoned well with salt, pepper, and butter. Chop one pint of oysters cooked in their own liquor until the edges curl and season as desired. Moisten well with the oyster liquor and a little tomato catsup and fill into the lined dish. Brush over the top with melted butter, set into the oven to brown and serve very hot, garnishing if wished with rings of hard-boiled eggs.

Children's delight—A very healthful dish and a favorite with children is made by cutting any fruit on hand into dice-shaped pieces, mixing with marshmallows cut into quarters. Pour over this a cup of stiffly whipped cream.

CHRISTMAS GIFTS MADE OF RIBBON

There is almost no limit to the ways ribbon can be used for decorations and fancy work. Hundreds of beautiful articles can be made that were not thought of a few years ago and which now have developed into an art that is well worth considering if one is looking for ways to earn pin money or a means of helping with the weekly expenses. What could be more charming for table decorations than loops and bows of shimmering ribbon, caught in the center over the table to the chandelier with a bunch of flowers or long loops and ends extending to each corner, where they are fastened by another bow?

A bridal table decorated with white ribbon, white flowers, and maiden-hair fern is lovely. The centerpiece is a golden basket, filled with flowers and fern, set upon a plateau of fern, and tied with a huge wired bow of soft white ribbon. Ends of the ribbon extend to each place, where it is fastened down by a fancy box containing a square of wedding cake. This box is made of white satin and tied with a pretty rosette bow of ribbon.

Clusters of ribbon are used for dinner favors at each lady's place and worn as a corsage decoration. These are made to correspond with the color scheme and decorations of the table. Ribbon flowers for corsage decorations, hat trimmings, and trimmings for evening gowns are very popular. They are not hard to make and find a ready sale.

Gifts Made of Ribbon.

Bags of all descriptions, vell cases, handkerchief cases, sachets, glove boxes, and countless decorations are all easily and quickly made from ribbon for the bride, Christmas, or birthday.

From one yard of twelve-inch ribbon a charming slipper bag can be made. Double the ribbon and sew it together at each edge, turning over the upper

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Only Five Days More of Our FREE COOKING SCHOOL

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THE MENU TO-DAY:

Crown Roast.	Peach Farina
Potato Rices.	Pudding.
Parina Balls.	Waffles.

Want Rugs?
LOOK AT THESE OPPORTUNITIES:

Every housekeeper wants a new rug for refitting the house in the fall, or if you are a new housekeeper, assembling fresh, new household chattels, of course you must have handsome rugs to go with the pretty new furniture. Business men might also find this a good time to buy a new rug for the office. Buy them here—prices speak for themselves.

\$22.50 to \$30 Genu- ine Axminster Rugs, \$14.50	\$50 Wilton Rugs . . . \$39.75
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Perfect rugs—Dorals and Orien-
tals. Sizes 9x12 ft. and 8x10 1/4 ft.
Artisan seamless—extra fine.
Woven very compact. Attractive de-
signs. Size 9x12 ft.

BORDEN'S BABY CONTEST

In order to enter your child in the great Borden's Baby Beauty Contest under the auspices of THE WASHINGTON HERALD, fill out this entry blank.

Name

Address

Age Weight Sex

Parents' address

All Babies entered must be under three years of age. Paste this entry on back of photograph by which Baby is to be judged. Read particulars on another page of this issue. Address photo to Borden's Baby Contest, The Washington Herald, Washington, D. C.

at each edge, turning over the upper end ends three inches. Run a double casing by stitching three times around and a quarter of an inch apart at the point where the edge of the ribbon turns over, and run this through with narrow ribbon for a drawstring. Select a dark-colored ribbon for this, or a changeable one; or, if it is designed for a bride, make it of white or some pretty Dresden effect.
Work bags made by sewing several lengths of ribbon together and, at the

point where they join, sewing a small brass ring, through which narrow ribbon is run for a drawstring, are designed for the woman who is fond of fancy needlework.
Innumerable styles can be made or selections made from them. A visit to the art needlework department of any large store will give you many splendid ideas. Ribbon work is quickly made; therefore is especially adapted to the needs of the woman who wishes to make money.

THE PRODIGAL JUDGE

By VAUGHAN KESTER

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CHAPTER III.

Trouble at Scratch Hill.

Cap. Murrell had established himself at Balsam's Cross Roads. He was supposed to be interested in the purchase of a plantation, and, in company with Crenshaw, visited the numerous tracts of land which the merchant owned; but though he professed delight with the country, he was plainly in no haste to become committed to any one of the several propositions Crenshaw was eager to submit.

"The Baron would have suited me," he told Bladen one day. They had just returned from an excursion into the country and were seated in the lawyer's office.

"You say your father was a friend of the old general's?" said Bladen.

"Years ago, in the North—yes," answered Murrell.

Murrell regarded the lawyer in silence for a moment out of his deeply sunk eyes.

"Too bad about the boy," he said at length, slowly.

"How do you mean, captain?" asked Bladen.

"I mean it's a pity he has no one except Yancy to look after him," said Murrell; but Bladen showed no interest, and Murrell went on: "Has Yancy any legal claim on the boy?"

"No, certainly not; the boy was merely left with Yancy because Crenshaw didn't know what else to do with him."

"Get possession of him, and if I don't, my land here I'll take him West with me," said Murrell quietly. "I am willing to spend \$50 on this if necessary."

"I'll have to think your proposition over," said Bladen.

The immediate result of this conversation was that within twenty-four hours a man driving two horses hitched to a light buggy arrived at Scratch Hill in quest of Bob Yancy, whom he found at dinner and to whom he delivered a letter. Mr. Yancy was profoundly impressed by the attention, for holding the letter at arm's length, he said:

"Well, sir, I've lived high on to forty years, but I never got a piece of writing before—never, sir. People, if they were close by, spoke to me, if at a distance they hollered, but none of 'em ever wrote."

"What's your answer?" demanded the stranger.

"You tell him I'll be monstrous glad to talk it over with him any time he fancies to come out here."

The next day Yancy had occasion to visit Balsam's Cross Roads. Crenshaw gave him a disquieting opinion as to the probable contents of his letter, for he himself had heard from Bladen that he had decided to assume the care of the boy.

"I reckon Bladen will have the law on his side, Bob."

"The law be d—d—I got what's fair on mine. I don't wish to be better than that," exclaimed Yancy, over his shoulder. He strode from the store and started down the sandy road at a brisk run. Miserable forebodings of an impending struggle leaped up within him, and the miles were many that lay between him and the hill.

As he breasted the slope he came within

MAKES SHAMPOOING A REAL PLEASURE

"The dread of washing one's hair is done away with, and shampooing greatly simplified, by the use of plain canthrox," writes Max Martyn, beauty specialist for the Los Angeles Globe.

"By using for your shampoo a teaspoonful of canthrox, dissolved in a cup of hot water, you have a shampoo that cleanses perfectly, removing all dirt and dandruff, rinses easily, dries quickly, and consumes only a few minutes for the entire process. This shampoo makes the hair soft, lustrous, and fluffy. It does not bleach, deaden, and cause the hair to split and become brittle, as soap shampoos do. I consider this inexpensive shampoo the only perfect shampoo."

(TO BE CONTINUED TO-MORROW.)

OLD-TIME SILKS

BACK IN FASHION

Dame Rumor whispers that we are about to undergo a change in our silk fashions, and this winter will find us wearing the gros-grains of our grand-mother's days and those of us who can afford them stiff brocades heavy with threads of gold and metal, such as were used long ago and revived for the coronation. Worth, by the way, has taken a great fancy to these fabrics, and we may expect to find many of his wonderful creations developed from these rare and beautiful materials.

Ottoman silks, says the worthy dame, will be used again, this time principally as collar facings and revers, cream white, deep yellow and coronation red being the favorites in color, any of which will be stunning with a navy or black serge suit.

Never were so many short, plaited silk waists.



Going to See Horn for the Free Rain Coat.

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